

ITAWAMBA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Proud of Our

IMPACT

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2014



Our MISSION

Itawamba Community College is a two-year public-supported community college dedicated to serving the educational needs of the citizens primarily of Chickasaw, Itawamba, Lee, Monroe and Pontotoc counties in Northeast Mississippi. Its main purpose is to provide comprehensive educational opportunities of the highest quality through academic, vocational-technical and personal enrichment programs in order to meet local needs at low cost to students.

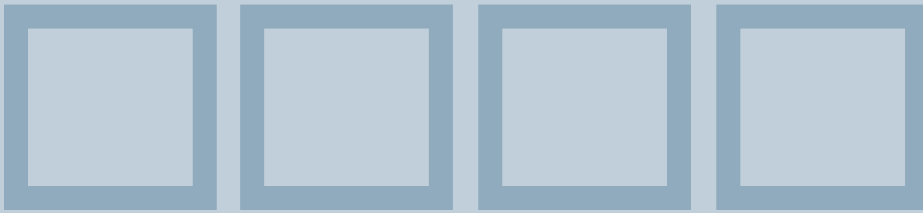
The College fully subscribes to the philosophy that the mission of the community college is to bring the concept of educational opportunities for all closer to reality. To support this philosophy, the College has an open admissions policy that provides qualified students an opportunity to pursue a college/university parallel Associate of Arts degree, a technical Associate of Applied Science degree or an occupational Vocational certificate. In addition, students are encouraged to participate in special interest programs. The students receive academic skills and application strategies to assume their roles in society and in the workplace. Additionally, residents within the district are presented special services and activities designed to promote economic growth.

Itawamba Community College respects the worth, dignity and potential of students, faculty and staff. Students can best be served in a college environment that recognizes the importance and contribution of each faculty and staff member, who collectively create a positive, synergistic learning environment. Therefore, the College affirms its commitment to a campus climate that encourages respect for others with an emphasis on study, performance, values and manners.

ON THE COVER

President Mike Eaton and his cabinet members (left to right, Dr. Sara Johnson, Jerry Senter, Tim Senter, James Williams, Buddy Collins and Wayne Sullivan)





ACHIEVEMENT



LEADERSHIP



WORKFORCE



COMMUNITY



SUCCESS



Proud of Our
Achievement



Guess Receives National Honor

Sarah Guess of Hamilton was named among 30 international Phi Theta Kappa recipients of the 2014 Distinguished Chapter Officer award, a 2014 Coca-Cola Community College Academic Team Bronze Scholar, PTK Regional Distinguished Officer and member of the All-Mississippi Academic Team first team.

“I am very honored and blessed to have received the PTK awards for there were so many other deserving applicants,” Guess said. “As a child, my mother always taught me the value of education, to work hard and get a strong education because no one could ever take it away. I live by that principle still this very day.”

As a 2014 Distinguished Chapter Officer, Guess was selected from more than 450 nominees and recognized during Phi Theta Kappa’s annual convention in April in Orlando, Florida. She received a commemorative medallion. Distinguished Chapter Officers are nominated by their chapters through the Hallmark Awards application process and chosen based on demonstration of leadership, promotion of Honors in Action, other engagement in the Society and enthusiasm for the Hallmarks of the Society

(Scholarship, Leadership, Service and Fellowship).

“When I think about the awards I have received, I see them as examples of my character,” Guess said. “PTK is about leadership, fellowship, scholarship and service, and I implement each of these characteristics in my life. I am blessed to be a part of the ICC family where the teachers and administrators have played a key role in my success and future success. I am thankful for President Eaton’s leadership and support of our college...My time at ICC has had a major impact on my life.”

Additional honors included Who’s Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges, ICC Hall of Fame, President’s list scholar and recipient of academic, band and leadership scholarships.

Guess, who graduated from ICC last month as a pre-nursing major, was president of the Upsilon Sigma Chapter of PTK, member of the ICC All-American Band and resident assistant. Her other activities included Big Brothers/Big Sisters and a member of the choir at New Salem Baptist Church.

She is the daughter of Jeremy and Gina Guess.



Emison, Guess Represent ICC at HEADWAE

Precision manufacturing and machining technology director and instructor Barry Emison of Tupelo and sophomore Sarah Guess of Hamilton were selected as Itawamba Community College's HEADWAE representatives for 2013-14.

They are among honorees from 36 institutions of higher learning who attended the Higher Education Appreciation Day, Working for Academic Excellence, Feb. 18, 2014, in Jackson.

The event was established by the Mississippi Legislature to honor academically-talented students and faculty members of the state's higher education institutions who have made outstanding contributions in promoting academic excellence.

On Appreciation Day, the honorees were invited to the State Capitol where they were recognized in each chamber of the Legislature and honored at a luncheon.

Emison, who has been a member of the faculty at ICC for 18 years, earned an associate's degree in tool and die technology; a bachelor's degree in trade and technology from Mississippi State University and a master's degree in higher education from the University of Mississippi. Emison received the Meritorious Achievement award from ICC in 2008, the Award for Excellence in Vocational Education from the Mississippi Manufacturers Association and the Award for Excellence from ICC, both in 2010. Guess is majoring in pre-nursing, where her activities and honors include president of Phi Theta Kappa, member of the ICC All-American Band, resident assistant, President's list scholar and recipient of academic, band and leadership scholarships. She also is active in Big Brothers/Big Sisters and is a member of the choir at New Salem Baptist Church. Guess is a 2012 graduate of Caledonia High School. She plans to transfer to Mississippi University for Women, where she will major in nursing. Her parents are Jeremy and Gina Guess.

Lancaster, Sullivan Receive NISOD Excellence Award

Dr. Ashley Lancaster of Saltillo and Wanda Sullivan of Tupelo have been selected as ICC's recipients of the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development Excellence award for 2014.

They were recognized at the 2014 NISOD conference, May 25-28, in Austin, Texas.

Lancaster, who is an English instructor, has assisted in the creation of the schedule for developmental English classes and has been a speaker for the last two Articulation conferences that ICC hosts for district high schools. She has also been the recipient of the Lamplighter, Humanities Teacher of the Year and Meritorious Achievement awards. Her book, *The Angelic Mother and the Predatory Seductress: Poor White Women in Southern Literature of the Great Depression*, was published by the Louisiana State University Press in 2012.

Sullivan has been lead online English instructor since 2007. She served as an adjunct instructor from 2001-2007 and as secondary English instructor at Mooreville High School from 1989-2007. Sullivan's educational background includes an associate's degree from ICC and both a bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Mississippi. Her honors are the 2009 NISOD Award of Excellence and Secondary Teacher of the Year in 2004. She also was a presenter at the NISOD conference. Sullivan has served on the Ready for Success and ACS Reaccreditation - Writing Across the Curriculum committees.

Keynote speakers for the conference included Isa Adney, author of Community College Success; Richard D. Kahlenberg, senior fellow of The Century Foundation; Tina Gridiron, program officer of the Lumina Foundation; and Ronald L. Baker, CEO and principal consultant of Baker Collegiate Consulting.



Four Faculty are Lamplighter Honorees

Four ICC faculty members represented ICC at the September Lamplighter conference, which was hosted by Southwest Mississippi Community College.

They included Dr. Ken Bishop of Fulton, Communications division chair and English instructor; Ashley Brown of Randolph, director of the Industrial Maintenance program; Paul Crum of Corinth, director of the Radiologic Technology program; and Wanda Sullivan of Tupelo, lead online English instructor.

The Lamplighter conference is sponsored annually by the Mississippi Community College Academic Deans Association to honor top community college instructors, who demonstrate excellence in instruction and a commitment to learning and teaching.



Ryan Todd Receives ICC's Humanities Teacher of the Year Award

Ryan Todd of Pontotoc, music instructor and assistant band director, was the recipient of Itawamba Community College's Humanities Teacher of the Year award.

He presented "The Pathway of Southern Majesty," October 28, at the W.O. Benjamin Fine Arts Center auditorium at the Fulton Campus.

A graduate of Nettleton High School, Todd attended Itawamba Community College. He earned both a bachelor's and master's degrees in music education from the University of Mississippi and completed additional work at Louisiana State University.

His honors include Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges, Phi Theta Kappa and academic achievement award, all at Itawamba Community College; Most Outstanding Undergraduate Musician and Pi Kappa Lambda Music Honor Society, both at the University of Mississippi; and selection as the A.E. McLain Outstanding Young Band Director of the Year by the Mississippi Bandmasters' Association.

Todd has performed with the Meridian Symphony Orchestra, Tupelo Symphony Orchestra, Tupelo Symphonic Winds, Corinth Symphony Orchestra and Baton Rouge Symphony Orchestra Brass. His professional/teaching experience includes private trumpet lessons; custom music arranger/drill writer for various high schools, ICC and the University of Mississippi; music and marching technician for various band camps; assistant director of bands for Pontotoc City Schools and Madison Central High School; director of bands for Pontotoc City Schools; adjudicator for marching classics, guest clinician and drum and bugle corps brass and marching technician.

The award is presented by the Mississippi Humanities Council.

Stevenson Selected as William Winter Scholar

Chris Stevenson of Saltillo, history instructor at Itawamba Community College, has been selected as a William Winter Scholar for 2014.

He was recognized during the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, February 20-23. "60 Years and Counting: Voices of the Civil Rights Movement" was the theme of the conference, which was sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College and the Mississippi Department of Archives and History with support from the Natchez National Historical Park. The celebration annually features lectures by nationally-known scholars and writers, enhanced by related films, tours, book signings, exhibits, plays, readings, concerts, entertainment and meals.

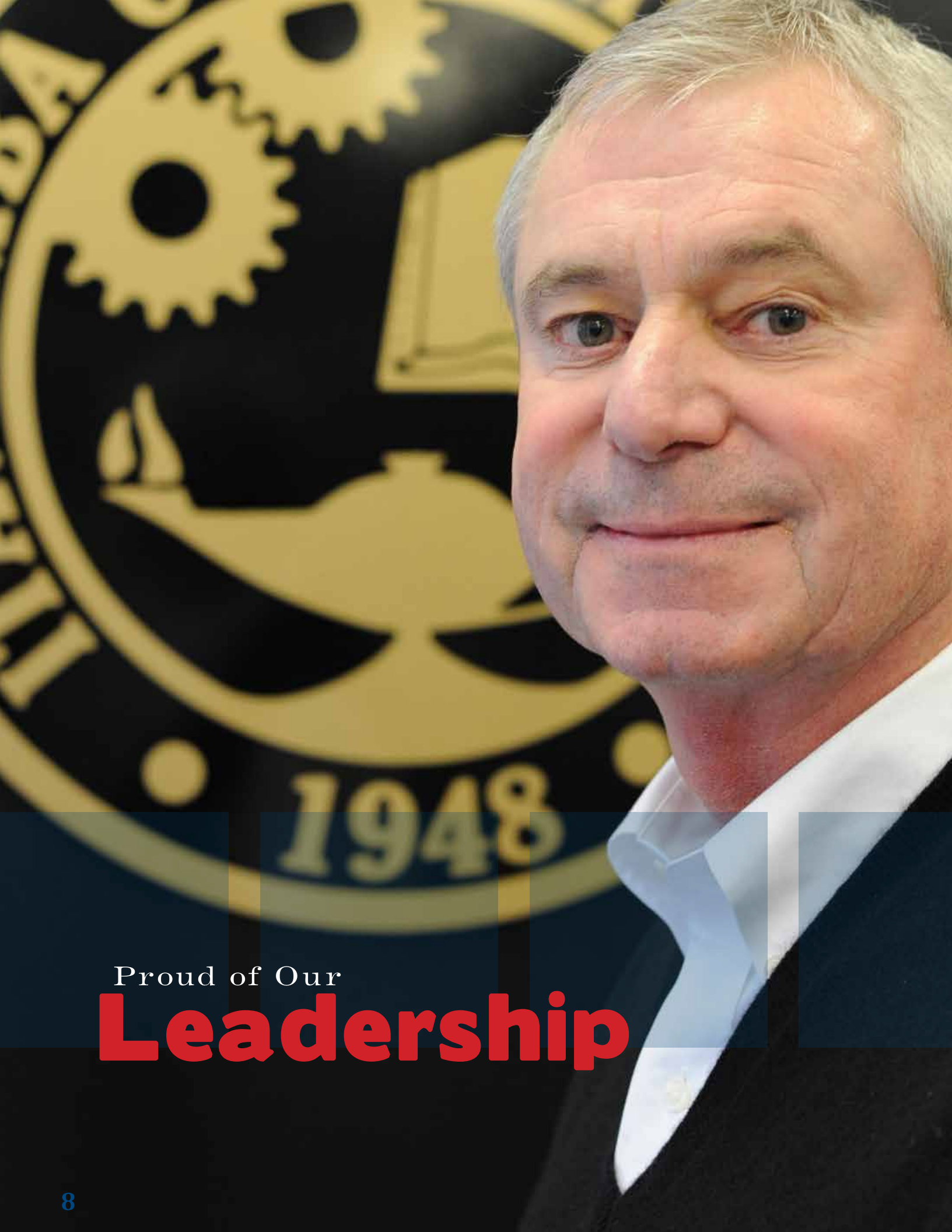
Stevenson has been a member of the ICC faculty since August 2010. He earned a bachelor's degree in secondary education from Mississippi State University and a master's degree in higher education student personnel from the University of Mississippi, and has post-graduate work from the University of Mississippi and Delta State University. His employment experience includes graduate assistant at the University of Mississippi; coach and instructor at Saltillo High School and Itawamba Agricultural High School; and instructor at South Pontotoc High School. Stevenson is the sponsor for the Future Educators of America chapter at ICC. His community involvement includes serving as an assistant instructor for Teach Smart – Prevent. He and his wife, Jessi, are the parents of Rourke, 4; and Riley, 1.



Four ICC Sophomores Selected to the All-Mississippi Academic Team

Four Itawamba Community College sophomores were selected as members of the Phi Theta Kappa All-Mississippi Team. They include Sarah Guess of Hamilton, first team; John Verner of Booneville, Neydal Sandoval of Ecu and Canary Brooks of Shannon, all second team.

Each two-year college in Mississippi may nominate two students per campus to the All-USA Academic Team. Nominations are based on outstanding academic performance and service to the college and community. The All-USA Community College Academic Team is presented by USA TODAY and Phi Theta Kappa. They were recognized at a team selection luncheon March 5, 2014 in Jackson.



Proud of Our
Leadership



Eaton Becomes Sixth President

The first time Mike Eaton sat behind the President's desk, he felt the magnitude of the job. "This is for real," he reflected.

On his first official day, July 1, 2013, Eaton said he was comfortable in his environment. After all, he had only moved across the hall in the Administration Building from the office he occupied as Assistant to the President for four years.

Since he was familiar with his colleagues and the College, Eaton didn't have the learning curve, which is sometimes the case for new presidents, but he said he started to realize on that first day that "I am standing on the shoulders of the legendary ICC President Dr. David C. Cole, and it is a very big job."

Eaton's work day is often not the traditional maintaining office hours kind of job. He has a multitude of external responsibilities in addition to providing support for those on whom he depends (the cabinet and deans) for daily operation of the College. "I rely heavily on the chain of command," Eaton said. "I hold them responsible and give them the freedom to do their jobs. My role is a supporting one. I don't know everything, but I know who I can trust."

Times were not the most prosperous when Mike Eaton became ICC's sixth president in July. "We were in conservative times," he said of the \$4 million deficit which the College faced last year due to a decrease in enrollment and no increase in legislative appropriations. "This first year, the focus has been more internal," Eaton said of the ongoing effort to right-size the College.

What about the future? President Eaton said that educational delivery at Itawamba Community College will be anytime, any-

place and anywhere.

Eaton said that since the forecast for district high school enrollments is static for the next few years, the College must accelerate its efforts in adult learner recruiting. "We must find an avenue to attract that segment of the population and to provide them a pathway to the future that leads through Itawamba Community College."

Especially important, Eaton said, is that the College must emphasize flexibility and availability. "ICC must continue to be progressive and innovative. We have a great faculty and staff and all of the ingredients are here for the College to continue to be successful."

Although the ICC presidency could be "a 24/7 job," Eaton said that there must be a balance, both internally and externally.

And as far as time to relax, Eaton said he exercises, which not only is healthy, but "it gives me time to myself and is a great stress reliever. I love to cook in the winter. I turn on a football game and listen while I take a recipe and just run with it."

Family is extremely important to ICC's sixth president. The Eaton family has a farm in Tippah County where they enjoy spending time together in a cabin, which he and his brother have built. That family also includes President Eaton's wife, Marcia, their daughters, Laura Bates, her husband, Todd, their children, Tyler, Sam and Mark; and Mallory Eaton.

"I am pleased with ICC's faculty and staff," Eaton said. "So far, I hope I've accomplished my 'new' job with communication and compassion. I have a lifetime investment in Itawamba Community College. I feel privileged and honored to be here."



C4 Initiative

Itawamba Community College has embarked on a new initiative to assist its students in completing their degree.

Phi Theta Kappa and the Advising Center are partnering in the Community College Completion Corps, or C4, a statewide student-led, campus-based effort to increase student success by informing all students about the benefits of completing a credential/degree and the consequences of not completing. Since its inception in 2011, hundreds of thousands of community college students have pledged to Commit to Complete – accepting responsibility for completing their credential/degree and promising to help at least one other student complete.

According to PTK Upsilon Sigma co-advisor Heather McCormick, C4 is an expansion of ICC's "Graduation...It Matters!" initiative, which began in 2011 to improve graduation, retention and persistence.

As part of C4, both students and faculty members were encouraged to sign commitment pledges. The student pledge includes a commitment to plan for college completion, discuss career planning, seek advisement on course selection, learn about and use college support networks and resources, serve as a role model with class attendance, reach out to students in need with encouragement and help at least one other student succeed, McCormick noted.

The Completion Champions pledge for administrators, faculty and staff members is a commitment to change the college culture from access to student success and college completion. Other areas include engagement in development opportunities focused on evidence-based educational practice, the creation of a positive learning environment and assist students by mentoring, encouraging and guiding them toward college completion. The pledge signing was April 9.

ICC Earns Halbrook Award for Greatest Improvement in Percentage of Athletes Graduating

Itawamba Community College has earned the John C. and Ernestine McCall Halbrook award for the greatest improvement in percentage of athletes graduating (20 percent).

The award and a \$1,200 check was presented October 22 during the Mississippi Association of Colleges annual meeting in Jackson to ICC President Mike Eaton.

Eaton attributed the improvement to a cooperative effort which has included ICC's Advising Center and faculty members and counselors who advise student-athletes. "This award is an indication that our advising effort is successful," Eaton said in commending those who have served as advisers.

ICC athletic director Carrie Ball-Williamson agreed. "I am proud of our institution and our athletes. Our coaching staff, Advising Center and Student Success Center have done a great job working together to make this possible. We expect our athletes to maintain a high level of academic success, and our athletic department is committed to that achievement."

Administered cooperatively by the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning, the Mississippi Community College Board and the Mississippi Association of Independent Colleges, the purpose of the Halbrook Awards program is to annually recognize colleges and universities that maintain and achieve high academic standards for student-athletes and encourage high graduation rates.

Established in 1984, the Halbrook Awards program was named in honor of its founder and endower, former Representative David M. Halbrook and his brothers, John C. Halbrook, James G. Halbrook and J.A. Halbrook.



11 Sophomores Named to ICC Hall of Fame for 2013-14

Eleven Itawamba Community College sophomores have been named to the Hall of Fame for 2013-14.

They include Michael Bumphis of Nettleton; Patience Tara Campbell of Blue Springs; Amanda Douglas, Jake Holcomb, Austin Long, Hart Robbins, all of Pontotoc; Sarah Guess of Hamilton; Julie Miller of Fulton; Latericka Snow of Okolona; Blake Trehern of Kosciusko; and Cody Haney of Tupelo.



Thorn to Participate in ASRT 2014 Student Leadership Development

Maegan Thorn of Golden, a first-year radiologic technology student at Itawamba Community College, has been selected to participate in the American Society of Radiologic Technologists 2014 Student Leadership Development Program.

Thorn was one of 75 radiologic science students from around the country chosen to participate in the program. She will receive an all-expenses-paid trip to the ASRT Educational Symposium and Annual Governance and House of Delegates meeting, June 26-29, in Orlando, Florida. In addition, Thorn will attend two educational courses specifically designed for students and be assigned a professional mentor during the House of Delegates meeting.

At ICC, Thorn is a member of Phi Theta Kappa. She is also a member of the board of the Mississippi Society of Radiologic Technologists and secretary of the MSRT North District. She is the daughter of Rex and Terri Thorn.

The ASRT represents more than 152,000 members who perform medical imaging procedures or plan and deliver radiation therapy treatments. The Society also provides radiologic technology students with the tools, services and support they need to prepare for careers in medical imaging and radiation therapy.



Speakers Challenge Participants of WHEMN Conference to “Empower, Inspire, Celebrate”

Itawamba Community College hosted the leadership conference of the Women in Higher Education Mississippi Network, February 20-21, at its Belden Center.

Members of the organization, which include women administrators in both two- and four-year colleges, participated in the conference for which the theme was “Empower...Inspire...Celebrate.” Among the presenters were Marlo Dorsey, chief marketing officer of the Mississippi Development Authority; Chelsea Rick, Miss Mississippi 2013; Dr. Beverly Hogan, president of Tougaloo College; Kelly Swanson, award-winning storyteller, motivational speaker, comedian and author; Dr. Mary Graham, president of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College; Dr. Carmen Walters, vice president of the Jackson County Campus of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College; and Wendy Thompson, vice chancellor for Effectiveness and Strategic Initiatives of the Tennessee Board of Regents.

Deborah Gilbert of Ridgeland, deputy executive director for Finance and Administration of the Mississippi Community College Board, received the highest honor presented by WHEMN, its leadership award, at the conclusion of the conference.

The mission of WHEMN is to identify, develop, advance and support women in higher education in Mississippi.

Dr. Jan Reid-Bunch, executive director of Community Relations at ICC, is the 2013-14 WHEMN state coordinator; and Tilda Bouchillon, administrative assistant for Academic Instruction at ICC, is the state treasurer/recorder.

When Opportunity Knocks, Blake Trehern Answers

When opportunity knocked during the fall semester, Itawamba Community College sophomore Blake Trehern of Kosciusko listened. The opportunity was an internship with Representative Alan Nunnelee of Tupelo for the spring semester.

But now, Trehern says, that opportunity could extend through the summer and beyond.

When ICC Vice President of Student Services Buddy Collins offered the internship application packet to the Fulton Campus Student Government Association officers, Trehern, who is vice president, said he thought that it would be a good opportunity to investigate his options.

A career in politics? Maybe. Trehern, who is a business major at ICC, said that he plans to transfer to the University of Mississippi and after he earns a bachelor's degree, the MBA or law school could be options.

During the spring semester, Trehern attended classes three days a week and worked in Congressman Nunnelee's office from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. the other two days. “It's a unique opportunity to see history and government first hand while helping America and working alongside a U.S. Congressman,” he explained.

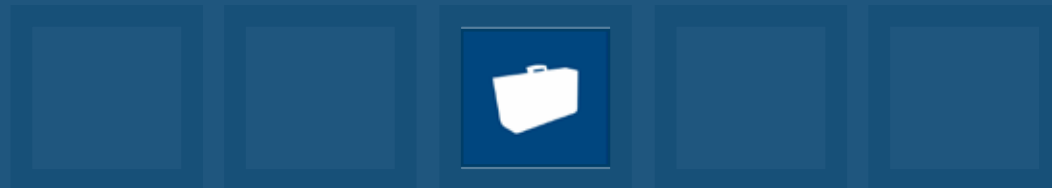
Trehern's tasks include assisting the Congressman with scheduling for both his DC and congressional district activities. He said the key is maximizing efficiency for Rep. Nunnelee, who has three Mississippi offices, an office in Washington and a business to run.



A male technician with short brown hair, wearing safety glasses and a dark blue shirt, is focused on working inside an open electrical control panel. He is using a yellow-handled screwdriver to adjust a terminal on a circuit breaker. The panel is densely packed with various electrical components, including a large red terminal block on the left, several circuit breakers in the center, and a digital display unit on the right. Numerous black and red wires are visible, some bundled together and others hanging down. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

Proud of Our

Workforce



A Partnership for Success

Demonstrating their commitment to the future of Northeast Mississippi, Toyota Motor Manufacturing Mississippi, Inc. and the Mississippi Corridor Consortium, an association of four community colleges - East Mississippi Community College, Itawamba Community College, Northeast Mississippi Community College and Northwest Mississippi Community College - are partnering in a new, innovative education-to-work program.

Known as the Advanced Manufacturing Technician program, it is designed as an innovative manufacturing degree that will span five semesters of classroom instruction and provide paid, hands-on experience at Toyota's Blue Springs automotive assembly plant.

The curriculum includes instruction in areas including electricity, fluid power, mechanics, fabrication and robotics, as well as advanced manufacturing, business principles and best practices. Upon completion of the program, candidates will receive an associate's degree.

A successful launch of the inaugural class last fall has resulted in exposure to unparalleled experiences in the

world of manufacturing.

In addition to in-depth instruction in manufacturing, the program includes semester-long modules in safety culture, workplace organization, lean manufacturing, problem-solving and maintenance reliability. It emphasizes attendance, initiative, diligence, verbal and written communication, interpersonal skills and professionalism.

Candidates who earn an AMT degree will be able to compete for skilled positions across the country or may apply for any locally available positions at Toyota, its suppliers and any other locally-based companies. Additionally, they may continue their education in engineering, technology or business or pursue employment opportunities in the open job market.

Participants must complete an ICC application for admission as well as the Toyota AMT program application form. Prospective students will be accepted based on academic success as measured through grades, class rank, math capabilities and the ability to work in a team and problem-solving environment.



“Make It In America”

Itawamba Community College celebrated with Mississippi State University and several partners, November 22, at the Belden Center the kick-off of a nearly \$2 million project to accelerate job creation and encourage reshoring of advanced manufacturing jobs that have moved overseas.

The U.S. Department of Labor recently announced that the university and its partners will be awarded \$1,931,935 out of \$20.5 million in total grant awards around the country to fund reshoring projects.

Led by the university's Center for Advanced Vehicular Systems Extension Center in Canton, the multi-partner MSU proposal outlines a “Make it in Mississippi” program to become one of the leading answers to the economic development challenge.

Clay Walden, CAVS Extension director and principal investigator of the grant, said the program consists of key stakeholders working in partnership to fulfill distinct yet complementary scopes of work. In addition to MSU, program participants include selected community colleges, workforce investment boards, Innovate Mississippi and the Mississippi Development Authority.

“The strength of our proposal was the strength of our partnerships,” Walden said.

Specifically, ICC, East Mississippi Community College, Holmes Community College, Mississippi Delta Community College, Three Rivers Planning and Development District and South Delta Planning and Development District are playing critical workforce development roles.

ICC President Mike Eaton said Itawamba Community College is excited to be a partner in the Reshoring Team.

“This significant grant will enable all of us as stakeholders in the ‘Make it in Mississippi’ program to meet the challenge of reshoring through a strong focus on addressing the needs of advanced manufacturing not only in our region, but also statewide,” Eaton said.

The award is part of the “Make it in America Challenge” made possible through the Commerce Department's Economic Development Administration, the Labor Department's Employment and Training Administration and the

Delta Regional Authority.

Programs are designed to encourage U.S. companies to keep, expand or reshore their manufacturing operations in America and to entice foreign companies to build facilities to make their products in the U.S.

MSU President Mark Keenum said the three-year effort will focus strongly on both returning jobs to the U.S. and keeping advanced manufacturing jobs in the state.

“We are pleased that the U.S. Department of Labor has recognized the effectiveness of MSU's relationships with key economic development and workforce training partners in accelerating job creation and encouraging the reshoring of advanced manufacturing jobs,” Keenum said. “Keeping and expanding opportunities in the U.S. and bringing back jobs lost overseas are vital to any effort aimed at strengthening our economy.”

The program will focus on manufacturers including, but not limited to, furniture and automotive.

MSU's Franklin Furniture Institute will lead program efforts to work with the furniture industry cluster. North Mississippi is a world leader in the production of upholstered furniture.

This program will target the development of advanced manufacturing technicians in high demand by industry. James Williams, vice president of economic and community services at ICC, said the program will expand a highly successful intern program and will accelerate the development of critical manufacturing skills across the region.

Included in the program is a series of listening sessions as well as the connection of small- and medium-sized manufacturing enterprises with competitive technologies not commonly available.

Employment Training Administration funding will enable the community college partners to establish a six-week internship program with cooperating advanced manufacturers. Walden explained that this program will fund 276 internships with a targeted 85 percent placement rate.

ICC Launches New 2014 Computer-based GED Testing in January 2014

Itawamba Community College launched computer-based GED testing in January 2014.

Conversion was made from paper-and-pencil to the new format beginning January 1. However, ICC has participated in a pilot project of computer testing since February 2012.

The pilot project was a partnership between the Mississippi Community College Board and GED Testing Service in an attempt to provide more adult learners throughout the state with a high school credential.

Registering, scheduling and testing on computer is providing a new experience for GED test-takers and continuing to improve the GED testing system, which is a gateway for adults to find jobs or better paying jobs, enter workforce or college training programs and better support themselves and their families.

The new computer-based GED test, which is the same test content that was offered on paper versions of the test, and its accompanying systems are providing an array of new benefits for both Mississippi and GED test-takers. Some of those benefits include an introduction of basic keyboarding and computer skills, enhanced test security, flexible testing appointments for test-takers, instant test scores and one-stop online registration and scheduling.”



“Mississippi is proud to lead the way on GED testing on computer,” said Eloise Richardson, State GED administrator, at the initial launch. “Adding this new option for adult learners will provide immediate and long-term benefits.

From hospitals to construction sites, basic technology, including computer use and keyboarding skills are common in the workplace today. Test-takers can now demonstrate mastery of these basic technology skills through the GED test on computer, learn immediately of their results and be better prepared to enter the workplace.”

One of the advantages of the computer-based GED, according to Jan West, director of Adult Education and Workforce Basic Skills at ICC, is that examinees leave the test center with scores in hand, whereas there was a waiting period for the paper/pencil tests to be scored. A second advantage to computer-based testing is that examinees may start another test immediately after they have completed a test. With the blocked schedule paper/pencil testing, all

examinees were required to wait until the designated time for the next test to begin.

The GED test serves as the only nationally recognized high school equivalency program. It includes social studies, science, mathematics and both language arts reading and writing.

ICC Partners with Snap-On Tools as DVOM Certification Trainer

Itawamba Community College’s automotive technology program has partnered with Snap-On Tools as a DVOM certification trainer.

ICC’s automotive, diesel and collision repair programs will utilize the 20 DVOMs that they have just received to certify students in Digital Volt-Ohm Meter usage to help make them even better technicians for the workforce, according to Brad Crowder, automotive technology program director. “ICC is the only community college in Mississippi that is offering this certification, and more certification opportunities will be available soon.”

The DVOM is an electronic measuring instrument that combines several measurement functions in one unit.





Proud of Our
Community



Dual Credit Offers Opportunities

Area high school students have a head start on college, thanks to their participation in Itawamba Community College's dual credit program during the 2013-14 academic year.

Partnerships between ICC and district secondary schools enable students to earn both high school and college credit at the same time so it is possible that they can enroll in higher education institutions with at least a semester, if not more, of work completed.

Approximately 300 students enrolled in dual credit classes at ICC this year. Courses offered during the fall semester were government, English composition I and college algebra. Classes offered on the spring schedule included English composition I and II, literature, algebra, Spanish I and psychology.

Courses can either be taught at the college campus or at the high schools by credentialed instructors.

High school partners in the program this year were Tupelo, Baldwyn, Shannon, Houston, Fulton,

Mantachie, Tremont, Pontotoc, Saltillo and Mooreville.

College officials predict that enrollment in the program will increase to 600 this fall.

Students who participate must have at least 12 high school core Carnegie units with a minimum 2.5 grade point average on a 4.0 scale, an ACT composite score of at least 16 and written recommendation from the high school principal or guidance counselor.

Student cost of each course is \$100 with Itawamba Community College providing a scholarship for the remainder of tuition and fees.

In order to continue enrollment, students must continue to make at least a 'C' on each dual credit course.

"It's a win-win situation for the College," said Dr. Sara Johnson, vice president of Instructional Services. "It's a great way to introduce students to ICC."

Adult Learner Incentive Scholarships Provide Catalyst for ICC Enrollment

Adult learners who have not been enrolled in college for the previous two years have an opportunity to apply for a new incentive scholarship that was awarded for the first time during the 2013 fall semester.

The scholarship is designed to provide an incentive for new or returning students, age 23 or older, not enrolled in college for the previous two years, to enroll in classes and pursue a degree, according to Buddy Collins, vice president of Student Services.

"The Adult Learner Incentive Scholarship is designed to provide needed financial assistance to encourage adult learners to enter or re-enter college," Collins said. "We are aware that many adult learners face financial challenges, and we hope that this scholarship will be the catalyst for them to enroll or return to ICC. A college degree will allow them to be more competitive in today's global economy."

The scholarship provides half-tuition for one semester. Criteria for selection include Mississippi resident, enrollment in a minimum of six semester hours, meeting admission requirements and in good standing with ICC. The scholarship cannot be combined with other ICC institutional scholarships.

More than 100 ICC students took advantage of the scholarship award during its initial offer in the fall semester.



ICC Continues Guaranteed Tuition to Area Residents

Each year, a college education is an option for every high school graduate in Itawamba Community College's five-county district.

Because of the generosity of foundations, business and industry partnerships and private donors, seniors in Chickasaw, Itawamba, Lee, Monroe and Pontotoc counties have the opportunity to receive two full years of tuition-free assistance to ICC.

ICC is the first community college in Mississippi for all five counties in its district to provide fully paid tuition for four regular semesters of instruction, which began with the graduating class of 2009.

Each year seniors receive tuition assistance, if needed, to close the gap between available federal, state and private grants and scholarships. The purpose of the program is to improve educational attainment levels in all five counties, thus strengthening community and economic development.

To apply, students work closely with their high school guidance counselors and Itawamba Community College counselors and financial aid. Recipients of tuition guarantee funds must complete 12 course hours per semester and maintain at least a 2.0 grade point average.



ITAWAMBA COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION

Tanglefoot Trail Ride

ICC's scholarship fund grew this spring as a result of the Itawamba Community College Foundation Riding the Tanglefoot Trail.

The event was a fundraiser for scholarship funds for ICC students. Riders who participated solicited sponsors to make pledges for each mile they rode. Riders who earned \$100 or more became an ICC Champion and received a free t-shirt.

New Direction for Community Relations

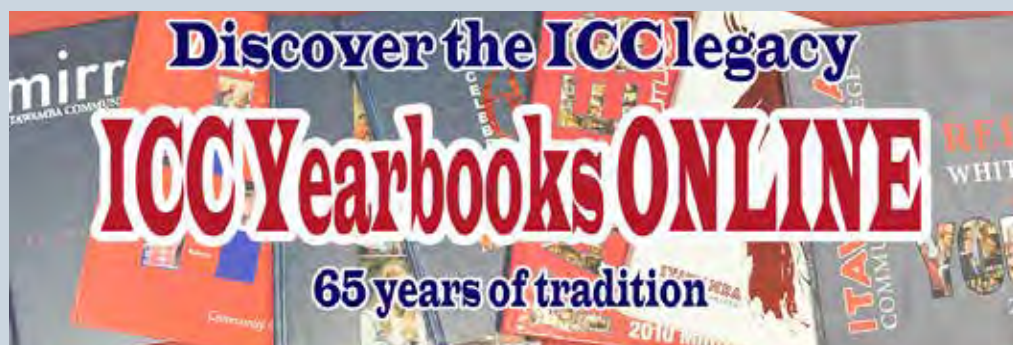
At ICC, the new year has brought a new direction for its public relations, marketing and sports information department.

Those services as well as social media, public information, media relations, alumni, Foundation, website, publications and special events have been combined into the new Community Relations department, under the direction of Dr. Jan Reid-Bunch, who for the past 10.5 years has served as dean of Academic Instruction for the College.

"This new structure will enable ICC to better connect with our constituents in the community to better promote our many opportunities and services," Reid-Bunch said. "It's exciting and will enable us to put the community back into Itawamba Community College."

In announcing Bunch's promotion, ICC President Mike Eaton said "she brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the position, which will allow the College to be more focused and responsive to the needs of our communities. Dr. Bunch is a proven leader, and her talents will definitely enhance the College's progress."

ICC's Community Relations team also includes Maggie Caldwell, Adam Gore, Jim Ingram, Paige Kennedy, Will Kollmeyer, Amy Moore, Donna Thomas, Mark Todd and Kim Wiygul-Williams.



ICC Yearbooks Since 1949 Now Available in Digital Format

Itawamba Community College's yearbooks from 1949-2013 are now available in digital format to enable access for the general public.

The project originated with a conversation last summer between ICC's Dr. Glenda Segars, director of Learning Resources, and Kim Wiygul-Williams, director of photography and graphic design.

"Through our library membership with Lyrasis, a library vendor whose mission is to support information professionals by offering collaboration, creative solutions and leadership for libraries while providing increased savings opportunities, we were offered the opportunity to be a part of the Lyrasis Digitization Collaborative, a Sloan Foundation grant-subsidized program that has made the process of digitizing college yearbooks and other pertinent documents easy and affordable for libraries and cultural institutions across the country," Segars said. "The ICC digitization process has been a joint effort of the LRC and the Community Relations department. Thanks to this project, students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends of ICC can have instant access to the treasures in the *Mirror* from 1949-2013."

Wiygul-Williams worked directly with Lyrasis to get all of the yearbooks shipped there, where each page was scanned from cover to cover.

"I'm very excited to see our project has been a success and is available online to everyone," said Wiygul-Williams. "Our College's history can now be seen in one place by simply flipping through the digital pages of our many years of ICC yearbooks. I look forward to adding each year's issue of the *Mirror* in the future."

Viewers can select from several formats including paging through a book by choosing the "read online" option, downloading the PDF or searching the full-text version, Williams said.

To access the books, which are available on ICC's website, www.iccms.edu, click on Learning Resource Center under Student Resources at the bottom of the page, and then on ICC Yearbooks under Books and Catalogs.



PACE Run/Walk

Marty Cooper, director of the Preparing and Advancing for College Excellence program at Itawamba Community College, right, presents a check for \$10,000 to Steven Blaylock, program manager of the Health Care Foundation of North Mississippi representing the North Mississippi Health Services Diabetes Center. ICC's PACE classes raised the money through sponsorship of its annual 5K for Diabetes Awareness. Blaylock said that the contribution will be applied to the DTC Patient Assistance fund, which helps more than 150 needy individuals each year. The PACE program is designed to ease the transition from high school into the college environment to enable students to develop the tools that they need to become successful.

THE ASPEN INSTITUTE

ASPEN PRIZE

FOR COMMUNITY
COLLEGE EXCELLENCE

TOP 150

2015

Proud of Our

Success



ICC Named as One of Aspen Prize Top 150 Community Colleges

Highlighting the critical importance of improving student success in America's community colleges, the Aspen Institute College Excellence Program has named Itawamba Community College as one of the nation's top 150 community colleges eligible to compete for the 2015 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence and \$1 million in prize funds.

"It is a tremendous honor for Itawamba Community College to be selected as one of the top 150 community colleges in the nation and the opportunity to compete for the significant Aspen Prize. It is another indication of the success of the College and its exceptional faculty and staff," said President Mike Eaton.

The Aspen Institute also selected ICC as a top community college in 2013 and a contender for the prize, which is awarded every two years, and is the nation's signature recognition of high achievement and performance among America's community colleges. It recognizes institutions for exceptional student outcomes in four areas, including student learning, certificate and degree completion, employment and earnings and high levels of access and success for minority and low-income students.

ICC and the other community colleges that were selected were identified through an assessment of institutional performance, improvement and equity on student retention and completion measures. The 150 institutions are

located in 37 states; represent urban, rural and suburban markets; and range from serving more than 100,000 students to fewer than 500 students. ICC currently enrolls approximately 6,000 students each semester.

Nearly half of America's college students attend the more than 1,000 community colleges, with more than seven million students – youth and adult learners – working toward certificates and degrees.

"Community colleges have tremendous power to change lives, and their success will increasingly define our nation's economic strength and the potential for social mobility for every American," said Josh Wyner, executive director of the Aspen Institute College Excellence Program. "This competition is designed to spotlight the excellent work being done in the most effective community colleges, those that best help students obtain meaningful, high-quality education and training for competitive-wage jobs after college. We hope it will raise the bar and provide a roadmap for community colleges nationwide."

Ten finalists will be announced in the fall. A distinguished Prize Jury will select a grand prize winner and finalists with distinction on the basis of site visits and the collection of additional quantitative data including employment and earnings data from states and transfer data from the National Student Clearinghouse.



Parker Pursues Dream of Meteorology Career

Itawamba Community College sophomore Johnny Parker of Smithville wants to be a meteorologist.

Parker, who has cerebral palsy, is enrolled in online courses at ICC to pursue his dream.

His interest in meteorology began when he was four or five years old. "One night a big storm came and blew over our apple tree. The next morning my mom told me and my sister, Chloe, to come outside to see it. The tree almost hit the side of our house. That is when I knew what my job would be, and that is forecasting the weather."

By the third grade, Parker said his friends asked him what the weather would be for the day, and he would tell them. "I would always be correct, and my friends began to call me, 'The Weatherman.'"

He said hurricanes were his first interest in weather. "I tracked them and watched the latest updates. The 2004 and 2005 hurricane seasons were very active. In 2005, I met Dick Rice, former chief meteorologist for WTVB. We discussed hurricanes and talked mostly about Hurricane Andrew of 1992."

"In early 2010, I was thinking of ways to get my forecasts out to people, and I came up with the weather text, which he sends out each morning about the day's weather. He started a daily weather blog on WeatherUnderground.com and also a weather email in 2011."

"Everything was good until April 27, 2011," he said.

"That was the day that Smithville was hit by a 205-mile-per-hour Ef-5 tornado. 'Me, my dad (Randy) and my sister were inside our house, in the bathroom, when it hit. Our home was destroyed, but luckily, we made it out fine without any cuts or bruises. My mom (Patti), who was on her way home at the time, saw the tornado drop down nearly

right in front of her. Since then, God has blessed us more than ever before."

That December, Parker and his mom were in Birmingham, Alabama to meet with author and meteorologist Bill Murray, who was writing a book about the April tornadoes, and he wanted to include their story.

"Jennifer Watson, who was a meteorologist at WTVB, had arranged for me to get a tour of the National Weather Service office," Parker said. A lunch followed with Murray and his researchers/partners from Mississippi State University.

"Then Jennifer Watson started asking me about my senior term paper that I had just turned in for my English class," Parker said in a January 9, 2012 story in the *Monroe Journal*. "I had chosen as my subject, Jim Cantore."

When Cantore walked in the door, Parker said all he could do was smile and grin. As it turned out, Cantore had driven from Atlanta to Birmingham just to see him. "My mom and my family knew but they kept it as a surprise for me."

Last year, Parker was also the special guest of Dr. Laura Myers, social science professor and researcher at the University of Alabama-Birmingham for a severe weather conference. Parker and his family met her after the tornado, and she has become a great friend.

Also, he has joined the National Weather Association and recently became a member of the American Meteorological Society.

Parker has been officially accepted into the Operational Meteorology program at Mississippi State University, where he will enroll upon graduation from ICC.

The State Championship Tradition Continues



Left to Right, Men's Basketball and Men's Tennis.

Health Care...



#It'sOurPassion



ICC Opens State-of-the-Art Health Science Education Center

Itawamba Community College formally opened its state-of-the-art Health Science Education Center, Aug. 1, at the Tupelo Campus.

The \$18 million, 80,000-square-foot facility, which is located on College View Drive, enables eight different allied health programs to utilize the team approach by educating and training students in the same environment, a unique concept in education, according to ICC President Mike Eaton.

Programs located in the facility include associate degree nursing, health information technology, practical nursing, occupational therapy assistant, physical therapist assistant, radiologic technology, respiratory care and surgical technology.

Shared learning experiences coupled with specialized instruction is enabling students in ICC's health programs to obtain state-of-the-art education to guarantee a steady, qualified stream of healthcare professionals empowered to maintain the region's premier medical status and keep specialties viable.

Washington Monthly Names ICC One of America's Top Community Colleges

Itawamba Community College has been named one of America's top community colleges by *Washington Monthly*.

ICC ranked 34th among 700 eligible two-year institutions.

"This is a significant recognition, which validates ICC as a premier community college," said President Mike Eaton.

The ranking is based on the Community College Survey of Student Engagement and U.S. Department of Education (IPEDS – Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System) measures of student retention and completion.

The CCSSE survey, which ICC has administered every other year since 2006, was given to students at more than two-thirds of all two-year institutions (approximately 700). It includes more than 100 questions on a range of topics such as teaching practices, student workload, interaction with faculty and student support. It is managed by a nonprofit organization of the same name housed at the University of Texas at Austin.

CCSSE combines the results of the questions into aggregate benchmarks in five categories including active and collaborative learning, student effort, academic challenge, student-faculty interaction and support for learners. The benchmarks comprise five-eighths of each college's ranking, and the remaining three-eighths is based on U.S. Department of Education measures. The data, which is compiled annually, includes first-year retention rate, percentage of first-time, full-time degree seeking students who graduate or transfer within three years and the ratio of all degrees awarded during a given academic year to the number of full-time equivalent students enrolled. Two-year degrees are given twice the weight of one-year degrees.

By the numbers

2013 Fall Enrollment 5,949

In-District:	78%
In-State:	98%
eLearning:	54%
Female:	61%
Male:	39%
African American:	29%
Caucasian:	68%
Hispanic:	2%
Other:	1%
Full-time:	75%
Part-time:	25%
19 and Under:	50%
20-24:	25%
25 and Over:	25%
First-time:	25%
Transfer-in:	6%
Continuing:	69%

Total Budget
\$108,773,297

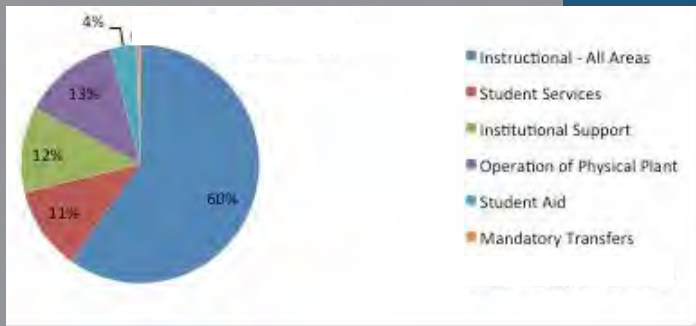
Total Building Value
\$178,511,236

Operating Salaries
\$25,835,637

Full Time Employees 445

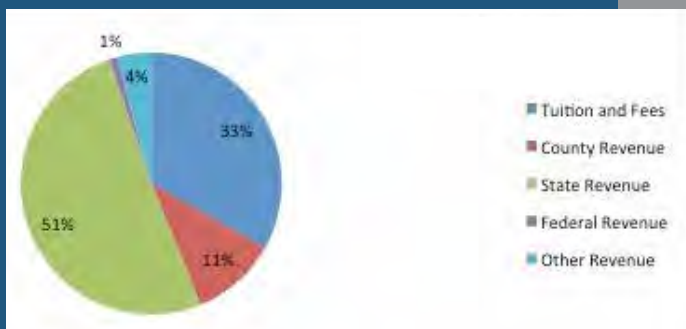
General Current Fund Income and Expense Budget 2013-2014

Expenses



Operating Expenditures		
Instructional - All Areas	\$27,738,849	60%
Student Services	\$5,244,227	11%
Institutional Support	\$5,408,562	12%
Operation of Physical Plant	\$6,063,772	13%
Student Aid	\$1,661,090	4%
Mandatory Transfers	\$219,180	<1%
Total Expense	\$46,335,680	100%

Revenue



Operating Revenues		
Tuition and Fees	\$15,372,947	33%
County Revenue	\$4,933,457	11%
State Revenue	\$23,624,886	51%
Federal Revenue	\$463,169	1%
Other Revenue	\$1,941,221	4%
Total Revenue	\$46,335,680	100%

ICC Board of Trustees



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Itawamba*



A LASTING IMPACT

Sixty-five years ago this September, Itawamba Junior College opened its doors to a freshman class of 114 members. Veterans' labor and second hand lumber were used to construct many of the first buildings.

That meager beginning has evolved into a rich history, built on a tradition of excellence, a legacy that has impacted thousands of lives that now span the globe.

This semester alone, Itawamba Community College has provided the educational foundation for approximately 6,000 more students, which in years to come will continue to impact not only its five-county service district, but also the region, state, nation and beyond.

This year, ICC was selected as one of the nation's most prestigious by both the *Washington Monthly* and the Aspen Institute.

Partnerships have enabled the College to open an \$18 million state-of-the-art Health Science Education Center at the Tupelo Campus, a key economic factor in support of the medical community, and to participate in a key reshoring initiative, the Make it in Mississippi program, to address the challenges of advanced manufacturing statewide. Through the Mississippi Corridor Consortium's Advanced Manufacturing Technician program, the College is providing internships for students to receive paid, hands-on experience with Toyota Motor Manufacturing Mississippi.

Student success and degree attainment continue to be the College's top priority, and this year ICC was awarded the John C. and Ernestine McCall Halbrook award for the greatest percentage of athletes graduating. In addition, Phi Theta Kappa and the ICC Advising Center have embarked on the C4 initiative to encourage students to pledge to Commit to Complete to earn a two-year degree or certificate. Student success translates to ICC's success.

By providing opportunities such as dual credit, eLearning and ARROW terms, ICC is ahead of the curve in delivering education anytime, anyplace and anywhere.

ICC continues to be fiscally healthy and strong. An outstanding faculty and staff, unparalleled campus environment and facilities and strong academic performance have positioned the College as a significant leader in higher education in Mississippi and beyond. Itawamba Community College will continue to leave an indelible mark and lasting impact on the footprint of higher education.

Mike Eaton

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